FBIS DAILY REPORT

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TASS: COTONOU CONFERENCE CALLS FOR UNITED FRONT

LD151505Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Cotonou, January 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Valeriy Zhdannikov reports:

Participants in the current international conference on the question of mercenaries have called for the establishment of a united anti-imperialist front of all progressive forces for foiling the criminal plans of international reaction and for defence of the revolutionary gains of the peoples of Africa and the whole world.

Addressing the delegates, representative of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation Nguyen Phouc stigmatised the intrigues of imperialism using mercenaries in an attempt to regain its positions in the African continent so as to continue the oppression of the wide mass of the people and plunder the natural wealth of independent countries. He declared full soldiarity of the organisation with the struggle of African states for freedom and independence.

Representative of the African National Congress of South Africa Tami Sindelo stressed in his speech that in face of the strengthening repressions of the racialist authorities, the people of South Africa has no other choice but armed struggle against imperialism, racialism and apartheid. He expressed gratitude to the countries of the socialist community and all the progressive forces for their disinterested aid to the national liberation movements.

An exceptionally high appreciation of the support by the countries of the socialist community for the national liberation movements was given in a TASS interview by representative of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) Sam Muzialewa. Under the conditions, when the people of Namibia is stepping up its struggle against the Vorster regime for the country's liberation from the occupation troops, he said, the invariable support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries assumes particularly great significance. In his words, the conference in Cotonou is convincing evidence of the strengthening unity of the countries of Africa and all the progressive forces in the struggle for the ultimate liberation.

ETHIOPIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY ASSAILS U.S., MAY REVIEW POLICY

LD142022Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] This evening the Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement commenting on the press briefing President Carter gave on 12 January 1978 concerning the situation in the Horn of Africa. The following is the full text of the statement:

President Carter, in a television statement he gave on 12 January, has made a deliberately mistaken suggestion--a suggestion contrary to the interests of the people of Ethiopia--while speaking on the situation that exists between Ethiopia and Somalia.

The president should realize that the reactionary Government of Somalia is responsible for the disturbance of peace in the region, for he knows that the ruling class of Somalia has arrogantly committed aggressions against the unity and territorial integrity of Ethiopia in violation of the basic principles of the UN and the OAU charters.

It is known that Somalia was pushed to open its war of invasion on Ethiopia by the U.S. Government, and especially by President Carter. Therefore, the U.S. Government cannot avoid responsibility for the invasion of Ethiopia. The president's statement is indicative of the U.S. Government's intention to add to Somalia's stockpile of weapons and to enable Somalia to pursue its invasion.

The U.S. Government is renowned for supporting dictators who are opposed to the interests of the broad masses. The support it has been giving to the former antipeople, bourgeois government, shall not be forgotten by the broad masses of Ethiopia.

The U.S. Government, the self-styled keeper of world peace, suffered shameful defeats in Vietnam, Cambodia and Korea. It is believed that the U.S. Government will not forget the lesson it has learned in these places.

The statement given by Mr Carter is the product of a coordinated plot hatched during the week with the reactionary king of Iran and the antipeople ruling class of Saudi Arabia. The statement given by the British Government during the week in support of President Carter's suggestion is indicative that the ruling classes of Britain dance to the tune of their U.S. masters.

It is impossible for Ethiopia to forget that in 1935 the British Government imposed an arms embargo under the pretext of not providing weapons either to Ethiopia or Italy, while it knew full well that Ethiopia was being invaded by Italy. What has been said this week by President Carter--that the United States has imposed an arms embargo on the two parties--compares in every way to the reason given by the British Government in 1935.

If what Mr Carter says is true, that he is a person who stands for truth, then he would have opposed the naked and open aggression being waged by Somalia against the people of Ethiopia and Ethiopian territory to fulfill its expansionist policy. It is not difficult to assume that the U.S. President feels enmity toward Ethiopia when he says that the two countries should open a dialogue while Somalia is the aggressor and Ethiopia is the country whose borders have been violated.

It is to be recalled that the Somali Government delegation walked out of the OAU reconciliation meeting held in August 1977 in Libreville, Gabon, in disregard of the basic principles of the OAU. This behavior shows clearly that the Somali Government does not abide by the basic principles of the OAU Charter, nor does it stand for peace.

In contrast, Ethiopia, apart from supporting the principles of the organization, believes that solutions to African problems can be found through the OAU. It should be realized that Somalia is attempting to hoodwink world opinion when it says that it wants peace while at the same time it wages an invasion and is pursuing an expansionist policy.

The obstacle to peace in the region is the expansionist policy and dream of the reactionary Somali Government, which is attempting to carve out one-fifth of Ethiopia, the whole of Djibouti as well as part of Kenyan territory and annex these areas to its own territory to build a Greater Somalia.

Peace, however, shall be restored to the region, but only when Somalia withdraws its armed forces from Ethiopian territory. Ethiopia has the right to take any kind of measure to drive out the invading forces of Somalia from its territory and to safeguard its territorial integrity and dignity.

President Carter's suggestion that the conflict be taken to the UN Security Council or the permanent member-states of the Security Council is contrary to what he said earlier--that support should be given to the OAU to find solutions to the problem. President Carter's suggestion is also a test of the ability of the organization of our continent, as well as a test of the diplomatic maturity of Africa. Therefore, the suggestion is useless and is based on (?a mistake).

Ethiopia has repeatedly announced that it has the right to establish friendly relations with countries which respect its territorial integrity. In this light, it highly values its solidarity with socialist countries and the assistance it gets from socialist countries without any strings attached. Ethiopia is not to be questioned on the relations it establishes.

The provisional military government of socialist Ethiopia would like to draw the attention of all peace-loving forces to the dangerous situation that the tribal-oriented expansionist policy of Somalia may cause. The provisional military government of socialist Ethiopia also warns that, unless the situation is checked in time, a situation that might involve the whole of Africa could be created.

If the U.S. Government, in accordance with this week's situation, pursues its policy of involvement and continues to give support to the invading force of Somalia, Ethiopia shall be forced to think about its policy [indegena inditasibibet] concerning its relations with the U.S. Government.

PUJA NOTES CONFIDENCE IN SUCCESS OF REVOLUTION

LD142050Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Comrade Frigyes Puja, Hungary's foreign minister and member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, has reaffirmed that the popular Ethiopian revolution will never be reversed. This was stated by Comrade Puja yesterday in a speech made at the Shoa sugar factory after he had toured the factory's various sections and departments. He was accompanied by the high-level Hungarian Government delegation.

Comrade Puja noted that imperialists and internal reactionary forces had attempted to subvert the Hungarian revolution, as they were similarly attempting to subvert the Ethiopian revolution. He expressed his hope that the Ethiopian people would succeed in their struggle against Somalia's open invasion and in safeguarding their revolution. He also expressed his hope that relations between Ethiopia and Hungary would further be strengthened.

Ends 4-Day Visit

TA141704Y Paris AFP in English 1633 GMT 14 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jan. 14 (AFP)--Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja today ended a 4-day official visit to Ethiopia which he described as "very successful."

Talking to newsmen at the airport, he said there had been "an identity of views" on bilateral and international issues discussed with Ethiopian authorities.

Mr Puja restated Hungary's support for Ethiopia's socialist development and defended its right to resist "external aggression by Somalia" and safeguard its unity and territorial integrity against separatists in northern Eritrea.

Mr Puja said agreement had been reached on the need to further efforts to enlarge the scope of bilateral relations between Ethiopia and Hungary. There had also been "full understanding" on the liberation struggle in southern Africa and on the question of detente, he said.

During his visit, the Hungarian minister met Head of State Mengistu Haile Mariam and the Organization of African Unity's (OAU) Secretary-General William Eteki Mboumova. He also paid a visit to a sugar estate 100 kms (60 miles) east of here. Mr Puja was due to visit the Congo, Angola, Mozambique and Tanzania during his current African tour.

EPRP MEMBERS LIQUIDATED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS

LD132024Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The residents of the town of Jimma unleashed red terror yesterday and liquidated several counterrevolutionaries of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee.

The individuals liquidated had been planning to attack the local infrastructure, including electrical, telecommunications, civil construction and banking installations and establishments; assassinate leaders of progressive organizations; steal the peoples money; and justify the Somali invasion.

The individuals liquidated included Demisse Bekele, head of the Jimma branch of the party Central Committee.

Search Continues

LD132025Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] In search campaigns conducted since the end of last November, the security squad of higher 25 kebele [urban dwellers association] in Addis Ababa, in conjunction with the police, have killed five leading hired assassins working for the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party and rounded up 316 others together with their arms.

The kebele squads captured 14 automatic weapons of various kinds, 21 pistols, 2 rifles, 3,692 rounds of ammunition, 1 (?rocket launcher), 4 grenades and 29,371 birr earmarked for the financing of counterrevolutionary activities.

The kebele search campaign took control of the Kokob publishing house in the city center, the central book shop near the Mekonnen Bridge, a household goods and furniture shop on Churchill Road near the Addis Ababa bank, and a Renault and two Volkswagen sedan cars.

Other items seized included 12 cassette tape recorders, 7 typewriters, 6 duplicating machines, 3 combat jackets and 2 battle uniforms.

Two hundred of those arrested are still in detention; 80 individuals are to be given political orientation instruction; and 36 others were released after being given political guidance. The search campaign continues.

OMDURMAN REPORTS REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES

LD101737Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 10 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The first contingent of 143 Ethiopian officers and other ranks who had taken refuge in Sudan left Khartoum airport at 1400 yesterday aboard an Ethiopian civil aircraft. They were seen off at the airport by his excellency the Ethiopian ambassador in Khartoum, the military attache and a number of officers and other members of the people's armed forces.

A second group of Ethiopian refugees left (?Khartoum) at 1700 yesterday. These 260 refugees, who had spent at least 18 months in Jubayt, included 5 civilians and 3 children, the rest being (?soldiers).

SECURITY OPERATION KILLS 7 SOMALIS IN SIDAMO

LD131317Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] It was stated today that members of the security forces of the Dere Subdistrict, Borena District, Sidamo Administrative Region, killed 7 regular Somali soldiers and captured 24 head of cattle in a mopping up operation they conducted in a locality called Giarso during the week. The administrative office of the Mega Subdistrict has announced that the members of the security forces have stepped up their mopping operations to liquidate the soldiers of the reactionary Government of Somalia deployed in the Dere Subdistrict.

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH GIVES DETAILS OF SOVIET AIRLIFT

LD161017Y London THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 15 Jan 78 pp 1, 40 LD

[Article by Gordon Brook-Shepherd in Muscat, Oman: "Soviet Arms Lift To Aid Ethiopia"]

[Text] In spite of Russian denials of interference in the Somali-Ethiopian war, one arm of the most massively-sustained Soviet air bridge since the Cuban crisis is sweeping every day around the coasts of this strategically vital gulf sultanate.

Like the other arms of the airlift, these planes are carrying T34 tanks, medium field and anti-tank guns, heavy mortars, SAM 7 light missiles, medical supplies, food and even petroleum for the Ethiopian Army in its deadlocked battle with the Somalis.

It is clear from the scale of the operation that winning this battle, and so establishing total control over the entrance to the Red Sea, has now become the Kremlin's top priority.

The aircraft which skirt around Oman are mostly Antonov 12's and 22's or Ilyushin 18's and 62's. They thus include some of the heaviest long-range transport planes at the Russians' disposal. The majority have Aeroflot markings but some fly without.

From their detailed flight plans and schedules which I have seen--running from Dec 2 of last year to as recently as the day I arrived here, Jan 9--it is evident that the factor which the Soviet planners are most nervous of in this long journey is Oman's small but highly-effective air force. This, with its squadrons of Hunters and Jaguars, is still commanded and run by RAF personnel on secondmbnt or local contract.

Thus, when the planes take off from Baghdad--which is usually from first stop after Moscow--they overfly Bahrain with impunity. But once they have gingerly negotiated the narrow Straits of Hormuz, between southern Persia and the northern tip of Oman, they then sweep well out to sea in the hope of avoiding the British-operated radar near Salalah.

Without exception on the schedules I have seen, the planes land at Aden, the capital of South Yemen, Oman's communist neighbour and bitter enemy which has become a totally subjugated Soviet satellite. After unloading there--at the main military base outside Aden now entirely staffed by Russians--the planes return along the same route to Baghdad. The average frequency is a steady two or three planes a day.

Other arms of this airlift are known to be reaching Ethiopia via Yugoslavia and Libya, with unauthorised overflights across the Sudan, or by way of Afghanistan across the Indian Ocean to Madagascar and Maputo. The total of Soviet air transporters involved is between 200 and 300, and it appears from some of the jumping-off points being used that the Kremlin is drawing on its strategic reserves which are normally left untouched in case of trouble with China.

There are reports that some of the material being rushed to Ethiopia has been taken from Red Army depots as far east as Tashkent and Alma Ata. And it is known that, on December 3, for example, the three Antonov 22's which use this gulf route to Aden took off from Tbilisi in Georgia, returning there the following day.

This airborne Soviet armada and its wider implications were among the topics discussed when I had a private talk, lasting nearly two hours, with Oman's highly intelligent and determined young ruler, Sultan Qabus, who came to power in 1970 after the deposition of his ultra-conservative father.

As the man who, two and a half years ago, succeeded in routing the Soviet-backed armed insurgents against him in the south he was clearly chafing at this Russian air bridge strengthening a non-Moslem people, the Ethiopians, in a fight against his fellow Moslems, the Somalis.

And he was very concerned that the West was being so slow to realise that the next Soviet objective, if they won this battle for the Horn of Africa, would be the oil-rich Arabian Peninsula itself.

[Text] "But as regards these wretched plans, what can I do so long as they keep their proper distance?" he said.

"And if they don't?" I asked.

"Then I shall not just sit and watch them like some other states they are overflying without permission. Oman will defend its independence against anyone, big or small. If they violate my airspace I shall immediately exercise my legal rights and force them down."

There was no doubting that this Sandhurst-trained ruler meant what he said. Nor could one question his ability to do it. The day before I had been assured that, within three minutes of a British finger pressing a button on an office desk near Muscat, at any hour of the day or night, two fully-armed fighters would be in the air with their British pilots.

Oman is known to have been consulting in the past few days with her powerful neighbour, Persia, over legal ways and means of blocking the Soviet airlift. This is known to be causing the shah as much concern as Sultan Qabus.

Indeed, the Persians, with their far larger air force more conveniently placed to the Straits of Hormuz, would be in a much better position to take action on this northern flank. The political risks are certainly high. But the strategic stakes are far higher.

Other reports reaching here show that the Russians are supporting their Ethiopian air bridge with a considerable flow of sea-borne supplies. Large ocean-going transports from the Black Sea discharge their military cargoes every week in Aden's harbour.

Bruce Loudon reported from Nairobi: Two Soviet destroyers were reported yesterday to have taken up positions eight miles off Massawa, the principal port of Eritrea, which is under fierce attack by secessionist guerrillas. There was no confirmation of other reports that the warships were shelling the guerrillas.

The presence of the destroyers helps to confirm speculation among Western intelligence experts this weekend that the Russians and their Cuban surrogates are preparing to assume a full-scale combatant role in support of the Marxist--Leninist military regime of Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Senor Raul Castro, brother of the Cuban leader and commander-in-chief of the Cuban armed forces, has arrived in Ethiopia to assume personal command of the Cuban forces there. Senior Russian generals are predominant in the supreme military command council.

AMNESTY GRANTED TO 124 PERSONS IN BALE REGION

LD152020Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A total of 124 people who had been misled into engaging in counterrevolutionary activities by the callacious propaganda of the reactionary Mogadiscio regime have surrendered themselves with their arms in Bale region. Reporting this, this administrative office of Mendeyo Province said that the repentant persons who gave themselves up at different localities and at various times have been granted amnesty in accordance with their appeal. The 124 persons also brought with them a total of 120 automatic guns as well as other weapons given to them by the Siad Barre regime for use in anti-Ethiopian and counterrevolutionary activities. The repentant individuals have now been allowed to return to peaceful life and resume their constructive role as active participants in the revolutionary development and progress of Ethiopia.

SOMALIA

MOGADISCIO: USSR, CUBA PLAN TO INVADE SOMALIA

LD141914Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Cuban Defense Minister Raul Castro is in Abyssinia in order to organize an invasion of the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic]. This commentary looks at this matter.

In recent months the Kremlin has been hatching plans to launch an invasion of the SDR. The massive airlift of weapons to Abyssinia has gone beyond all reasonable need. According to (?expert) information, the sophisticated Russian weapons have been handed over to Cuban troops, who number in the thousands. This massive inflow of weapons, which are the most sophisticated and in the largest quantities ever brought to Africa, are intended for use by Warsaw Pact troops.

The Russians have sent their experts, who were formerly in Somalia for a long time, to plan and organize a final, decisive invasion, first, to eliminating the liberation movements of Eritrea, the Western Somali Liberation Front, and the Somali-Abo Liberation Front, and, second, to launche by force an invasion of the SDR.

In order to facilitate this plan, the Russians have been using 15 percent of their transport aircraft for the past 2 months to airlift weapons to Abyssinia. Cuban troops, supported by Russian experts have been training for a time in a bid to implement the (?wicked plans) aimed at invading the SDR in the name of the Abyssinians.

At this moment, Raul Castro, the Cuban defense minister, brother to the Cuban leader Fidel Castro, is in Abyssinia on a secret visit. Raul Castro toured the defensive installations and camps of the Cuban troops in Abyssinia to assess the level of preparedness of the Cuban forces. Raul Castro also held talks with Cuban military leaders, with full authority to give the green light for launching the invasion which is aimed at realizing the joint ambitions that the Russians and the Cubans have in mind after such an invasion.

Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party general secretary and SDR president, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, has on many occasions warned about the dangers developing in the Horn of Africa and the danger that could ensue from intervention by the Russians and their lackeys, the Cubans, in the Horn of Africa. The SDR, expressing its concern about the new political steps the Kremlin is taking abrogated their friendship treaty with the Russians in November of last year and ordered the expulsion of the Russian military experts and civilians from the SDR within a period of 7 days. This was done in order to preserve the sovereignty and existence of the Somali people and in answer to the Russian attempt to appear as the friend of the SDR while at the same time launching sallies against our brothers in western Somalia and Somali-Abo who are struggling for their rights.

The whole world has since denounced the repugnant Russian political maneuvers in the Horn of Africa. Progressive governments have condemned the Russians and their lackeys, too.

The latest wave of condemnation came from the governments of China, the United States and Britain. U.S. President Carter blamed the Russians for meddling in the affairs of the Horn of Africa by openly siding with the Abyssinians and opposing the liberation wars of western Somalia and Eritrea.

In a press conference, the president said that all seven countries he had recently visited held the same opinions as his own, and all were greatly worried about Russian and Cuban interference in the Horn of Africa and the massive flow of Russian weapons into Abyssinia for use in slaughtering women, children, students, teachers and innocent people. He declared that the massive airlifts of weapons by the Russians into the area were intensifying the tension in the Horn of Africa.

[Word indistinct] follows consistent authenticated reports released by the United States which showed the danger posed by the Russians for peace and easing of tension in the Horn of Africa. President Jimmy Carter finally appealed to the Russians and the Cubans to stop sending weapons and troops to Abyssinia.

The Russians were also vigorously condemned by the PRC, which said that the Russians were testing their power in the Horn of Africa while [words indistinct]. The Chinese news agency also disclosed that 225 Russian transport aircraft had (?launched) a massive airlift of weapons to Abyssinia during the months of November and December last year. [Word indistinct] further said that the Russians had not yet learned a lesson from the defeats they suffered in the SDR, Egypt and Sudan and wanted to frighten the Arab countries of the Red Sea and strategic positions. A spokesman for the British Government also expressed yesterday the concern felt by the British about Russian and Cuban interference in the Horn of Africa and said that Russian interference was hindering a peaceful solution to the problem between the Abyssinians and the liberation movements.

African (?governments) are greatly disturbed and worried about Russian interference in problems which concern the African peoples. There is no doubt whatsoever that if the Russians do not cease their policies of meddling in the affairs of Africa, the African peoples will very soon join to demand: Russia go home, and keep your hands off the internal affairs of the African continent.

No weapons, however sophisticated, can weaken their determination. On the contrary, they will strengthen their will to gain their freedom. There is no doubt that the liberation movements will attain victory, and that any invasion on the SDR will prove futile because the Somali people are ready to teach any enemy who invades their country and sovereignty a historic lesson he will never forget.

DANAB Issues Warning

LD141530Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1100 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Russia wanted to bring the Horn of Africa under its direct control for strategic military reasons in the event of a third world war, DANAB, the daily bulletin of the Western Somali and Somali-ABO liberation fronts, stated today. The bulletin was commenting on the Cuban defense minister's secret visit to Addis Ababa.

The bulletin said the presence of the Cuban defense minister, who is Castro's brother, indicates a new Russian move whereby Cuban mercenaries are to be organized against the liberation fronts, and the western Somalis are the first target. The Cuban troops are manning the mechanized brigades, artillery battallions and tactical rockets for the Abyssinians, DANAB said, and described the visit as very dangerous and of common concern to the whole of Africa and the world at large.

SOMALIA SAID TO USE CHINESE ARMS IN WAR PREPARATION

LD161005Y London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 16 Jan 78 p 4 LD

[Article by Bruce Loudon in Nairobi: "Somalia Preparing for Major Battle as Weapons Arrive"]

[Excerpts] Shipments of Chinese armaments, including ground-to-air missiles, were reliably reported to be arriving in Somalia last night as part of a massive build-up of weapons on both sides in the Horn of Africa conflict.

Sources in Mogadiscio said that while there is no question of Somalia's arms build-up matching that being provided by the Russians for Ethiopia, "this thing is far from one-sided: The Somalis are getting weapons and preparing for a major battle."

Reports of the arrival of Chinese weapons in Mogadiscio will heighten fears of a major new conflagration in the Horn of Africa.

Further evidence of the degree of Russian and Cuban participation in the conflict was produced during the weekend. Eritrean secessionist guerrillas claimed that they have both killed and captured Russians and Cubans in fighting for the strategic port of Massawa. They promised to produce evidence to support this claim.

Intelligence reports describe the Russian and Cuban involvement on the Ethiopian side as "total" as Addis Ababa prepares for its long-awaited counter-offensive to regain territory in the disputed Ogaden region and reassert its authority in Eritrea.

Most observers believe that prospects of peace are indeed remote because of the rapidly-escalating involvement of foreign powers, mainly on the Ethiopian side.

The loss of the big Russian naval base at Berbera was a major blow to the Kremlin's strategy, these sources say. They are determined to recover it, even if this means using the Ethiopians to strike across into Somali territory.

It is this fear of a strike against Somalia that is believed to be dominating assessments of the situation made by such prominent Somali supporters as the shah of Iran and King Khalid of Saudi Arabia. Both are disturbed by the prospects of a Russian attempt to use the Ethiopians to retake Berbera and have promised total backing to the Somalis.

OFFICIAL ATTACKS SOVIET, CUBAN ROLE IN ETHIOPIA

LD152004Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] The aggressive and savage attacks recently mounted by Abyssinian military aircraft against parts of the northwest region cannot curb the Somali people's determination to safeguard their sovereignty and territorial integrity. The attacks have reinforced their determination to counter the enemy. This is what Challe Maj Gen Jama Mohamed Ghalib, Somali minister for labor and social affairs, told Ministry of Information reporters in Hargeisa today.

Challe Ghalib added that the measures adopted by the Abyssinian regime and their foreign backers against the Somali people everywhere, and those of the northwest region in particular, have encouraged the latter to increase their moral and material support for the Western Somali and Somali-Abo liberation fronts, which had now risen to break the shackles of the centuries-old Abyssinian colonialism.

The minister said it was a black spot in the history of the Russians and Cubans to introduce neocolonialism in this 20th century, especially as Russia has always claimed to be the vanguard in the eradication of colonialism. Challe Ghalib added that the Russians and their lackeys have not learned from the experience of former colonial powers which tried to stifle the liberation struggles of various peoples. Now they would be taught an unforgettable lesson by the guns of the freedom fighters. He said that no force whatsoever that supported Abyssinian colonialism could possibly halt the wars of liberation being waged against the Addis Ababa regime.

MINISTER APPEALS FOR SUPPORT AGAINST INVASION

LD161318Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 16 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Somali minister for information and national guidance, Challe Abdi Kassim Salad, has appealed to the nations of the world and particularly to friendly and peace-loving nations to support Somalia in confronting the aggressive attack which Russia and its stooges are planning to launch against it.

The minister, who gave a press conference this morning at his ministry, said that the rejection by Russia, Abyssinia and their allies of a peaceful solution to the problem clearly indicated that they intended to attack Somalia. Ethiopia's rejection of the peace proposals made by the U.S. President and other peace-loving leaders made it plain that Russia and its stooges identified themselves with this rejection, which clearly indicated to the world the existence of a plan to attack Somalia, Djibouti and other neighboring countries, Challe Abdi Kassim Salad said.

The minister revealed that Russia, Abyssinia and their allies intended to attack the most strategic points in Somalia by air, land and sea with the subsequent aim of radically transforming the Somali Government. The minister also disclosed that the attack is being planned by a high military committee which consists of eight Russians, four Abyssinians and three Cubans. He added that the Russian and Cuban defense ministers were now secretly in Abyssinia.

The minister went on to say that the modern weapons being supplied to Abyssinia in excess of its defense needs were intended for use in this planned attack hatched by the Kremlin politicians and other Warsaw Pact countries. He said that the Addis Ababa regime's rejection of peace showed that it was serving the Kremlin's strategy and policies. The minister said that the Addis Ababa regime, instead of appreciating the concern of some leaders who had shown interest in the problem of the Horn of Africa, had insulted and baselessly accused these leaders. Challe Abdi Kassim said the Abyssinian allegations that the U.S. Government was secretly supplying Somalia with weapons and that Somalia had invaded its territory were baseless lies aimed at obfuscating the excessive supplies of weapons Abyssinia was obtaining and its services for Russian interests.

The cheap propaganda being spread by Russia and Abyssinia against Somalia and other peace-loving countries would never solve the problem in the Horn of Africa, Challe Abdi Kassim Salad said. The minister added that Somali forces had never attacked Ethiopian territory. On the contrary, Abyssinian forces had made barbarous attacks on some regions of Somalia, where they had killed innocent civilians. He said it was not secret that the Somali Government fully supported the Somali liberation fronts, but it also supported a peaceful solution to the conflict between the liberation fronts and the Abyssinian colonialists. The minister said that Somalia realized that many countries of the world were now aware of the seriousness of the problem of the Horn of Africa and were expressing their concern over it. Quoting the speech of the president, Challe Siad, the minister said that Somalia was ready to welcome any solution aimed at solving the problem of the Horn of Africa in a manner based on peace and justice.

IVORY COAST

FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING CONTINUES VISIT

PA131331Y Paris AFP in English 1157 GMT 13 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpts] Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, Jan 13 (AFP)--French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing arrived here today for a three-day stay as guest of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. The Ivorian president has his country retreat and model plantations in Yamoussoukro.

At Yamoussoukro, whose vast plantations Mr Houphouet-Boigny has built up over 30 years and which he announced recently he was handing over to the state, the two presidents are to have three tete-a-tete meetings, the first this afternoon. Their delegations will join them on Saturday.

The delegates had a first working session this morning, attended by the Ivorian economy, finance and planning, foreign affairs, education, navy, and information ministers and the French ministers of cooperation, Robert Galley, economy and finance, Robert Boulin, and education, Rene Haby.

On the agenda were financial cooperation involving the French Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC) and Central Economic Cooperation Fund (CCCE), technical assistance, agro-industrial projects, civil and military pensions, taxation agreements, cooperation in the field of radio and television, French participation in Ivory Coast's merchant ship repair industry and port installations, informed sources said.

Galley Briefs Press

PA151313Y Paris AFP in English 0637 GMT 15 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, Jan 15 (AFP)--The Americans seem to understand African problems better since President Carter's recent visit to Paris, French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing told Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny during wide ranging official talks here yesterday.

In a press briefing here last night on the two presidents' talks, French Cooperation (foreign aid) Minister Robert Galley said he himself thought the President of the United States "appreciates France's Africa policy."

"As for us, we want the Americans to take greater interest in Africa," he added.

At a private dinner here last night, the two presidents discussed the "destabilization" of the continent, and especially the situation in the Horn of Africa.

In their talks earlier in the day, Mr Giscard d'Estaing and Mr Houphouet-Boigny discussed Western aid to Africa. Three topics were discussed: the Fund for the Advancement of Africa, the Sahel drought and the Euro-African solidarity pact. The creation of an African advancement fund to contribute to development projects was suggested by Mr Giscard d'Estaing in May 1976. Mr Galley expressed disappointment that so far the idea scarcely seemed to have caught on with France's European partners or the United States. But the French president informed Mr Houphouet-Boigny of the "interest" and "good intentions" shown by President Carter towards the project while he was in Paris.

The purpose of the Euro-African solidarity pact, according to the French president's proposals a few days before Djibouti's independence last June, would be to make the best possible [words indistinct] the complementary differences between the two continents. Mr Galley noted that France's European partners were beginning to show some interest in the project.

Mr Galley said he "didn't know" whether the pact might some day include a military solidarity clause covering European arms shipments to Africa. He refused to answer when a journalist asked him whether France was getting ready to deliver Jaguar supersonic fighter-bombers to Ivory Coast as rumored.

After discussing with his Ivory Coast host the drought which is once again threatening the Sahel countries, Mr Giscard d'Estaing asked Mr Galley to fly to Bamako, Mali, to study possible remedies.

The French president favors a thorough solution to the drought problem by technical means such as irrigation wells and reforestation so that France will [word indistinct] be called upon periodically for aid with no hope of [word indistinct] seeing an end to the calamity whose causes are now largely understood.

Giscard Meets Press, Departs

LD152044Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] The president of the republic is at this moment on his way back to Paris. His special DC-8 left the Ivory Coast shortly before 1500. His official visit ended with a press conference and the signing of the final communique, a joint communique of over 2,000 words which refers to relations between France and the Ivory Coast. Ralph Pinto reports: The communique notes the success of the Ivory Coast visit, emphasizing the identity of views on the most important world problems, including African problems. Moreover, during their press conference, Presidents Houphouet-Boigny and Giscard d'Estaing noted that the independence of the Ivory Coast did not mean a rupture in relations between the two states and that relations between the two states have never been more cordial.

During the press conference, the French President recalled the three basic rights of the African states: the right to independence, the right to security within internationally recognized frontiers, and the right to choose the paths and methods of development. It should also be noted, the president said, that the Ivory Coast has become France's fifth largest partner for contacts for big projects, after Iran, Saudi Arabia, the USSR and Nigeria. The special fund for the promotion of Africa proposed by Paris, as well as the Euro-African solidarity pact, will be discussed during the next European Council. We also know that the next visit by the president of the republic to Africa will be to Guinea, but we do not yet know the date.

Finally, during this press conference, the head of state brought up the example of Helsinki and the Conference on European Security to explain how he saw the Euro-African solidarity pact:

[Giscard--begin recording] Let us take what are called the three baskets at Helsinki. The first basket concerns problems of security and the stability of frontiers. In the context of this first basket, a certain number of dispositions have been made concerning procedures for the possible changing of frontiers which can happen only by peaceful means, exclusively through procedures laid down by international organizations. This is laid down by the Helsinki agreement.

One can imagine such a disposition concerning Africa. Moreover, as regards security, one recalls that certain instructions have been given concerning the information which states should exchange among themselves on certain military activities, such as maneuvers or the deployment of their forces.

Therefore, in my opinion, there should be a first group of principles covering the problems of security and the stability of frontiers. A second group should cover the problems of cooperation, political and economic, and a third group should cover the questions of cultural cooperation and the association between the African continent and Europe. [end recording]

NIGERIA

ANGOLA'S NETO ARRIVES IN LAGOS FOR 5-DAY VISIT

LD151745Y Lagos International Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] The president of the People's Republic of Angola, Dr Agostinho Neto, accompanied by his wife, has arrived in Lagos to begin an official visit to Nigeria. He was met on arrival at Murtala Mohammed Airport by the head of state, Lt Gen Olusegun Obasanjo, [words indistinct] and top government officials. The 5-day visit is at the invitation of the federal military government.

HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA VISITS NIGERIA

LD151056Y Lagos International Service in English 0730 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Hungarian foreign minister, Mr Puja, is in Lagos on an official visit to Nigeria. He told newsmen at Murtala Mohammed Airport that his country would continue to support moves by the United Nations aimed at ending the apartheid policy in southern Africa. During his stay, Mr Puja will hold talks with Nigerian leaders on how to improve the cordial relations between Nigeria and Hungary. He will visit four other African countries. These are the People's Republic of Congo, Angola, Tanzania and Mozambique.

VOTER REGISTRATION FOR 1979 ELECTIONS BEGINS

LD141842Y Lagos International Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpt] Registration of voters for the 1979 election in Nigeria has begun. The exercise took off today with the registration of the head of state, Lt Gen Olusegun Obasanjo, at Dodan barracks, Lagos. Also registered today was the chief of staff, supreme headquarters, Brig Shehu Yar'dua.

ANGOLA

NETO REVIEWS RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE, ZAMBIA

LD152204Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA

[President Agostinho Neto address to a mass rally in the Kazenga suburban area of Luanda on 14 January 1978--recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades: Our life is not a (?private) one. We in Angola have relations with a number of countries. We have repeatedly referred to our excellent relations with countries such as the USSR, Cuba and other socialist states. We shall never forget the massive aid the socialist countries have been giving us. These are friendly relations. This is in fact an internationalism which we have been maintaining and which we shall continue to maintain and promote.

Relations are not always excellent. You know that in the past the National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA] used to come from Zaire and the Zairians were here. They fought against us. They tried to reach Luanda, and they even destroyed a (?line) at Kifangondo. (?This is a bad situation) facing us.

We think that it is possible for the people in Zaire to improve their relations with us, provided that they do not send the FNLA here. [Word indistinct] then, we shall be glad, will we not? We shall be glad if they do not send any more FNLA. They have promised this. It is better to have friends than to have enemies. We are going to improve our relations with them, provided that the FNLA no longer enter Angola. If they go on coming in, then the situation will continue as it is today. We have accordingly been approached by our brother, the president of Zaire, so that we may change the situation. That is fine with us, provided that the FNLA no longer enter here. If they do, the Peoples Defense Organization [ODP] will [words indistinct].

Although we have problems ourselves, we are very sorry for our friends in Zaire and Zambia, who at present cannot use the Benguela railway to carry out their economic activities. We are fortunate to (?have) an enormous coast. Zambia is [word indistinct]. It is a landlocked country, a country we must help to enable it to export its products. We are ready to do this. If it becomes necessary to build a railway, we shall try to clear the bush over half of its distance to facilitate construction. Perhaps, initially, we shall construct a road from Angola to Zambia to enable the latter to send its copper to the harbor in Lobito.

Zaire also faces difficulties. It too has no efficient ports. If we wanted to, we could (?in a single day) close the one port it has at Matadi. We could blockade it, and then they would be unable to transport any product to or from Zaire. Matadi is a harbor which is served by the Zaire River and their ships have to pass through our territorial waters. Nonetheless, we do not want to kill anybody.

I believe that we are brothers. If Zaire wants traffic there, that is all right, provided they do not send the FNLA here. They must not send the FNLA here and we are going to deal with these problems properly. They could even use the Benguela railway. We shall see to it. We are going to send some of our comrades, some officials to discuss [words indistinct] so that they should be a little more relieved. It seems as if I do not have anything more to say about this.

Comrades, tomorrow, I am going to visit a great African country--Nigeria. This is a friendly country, a country dedicated to solving the problems of African liberation. It is a country which helped Angola from the very first moments of our country's inception. I believe that during this visit we shall have the opportunity to draw up agreements, to agree with our Nigerian friends on what is most needed for our organization--I mean for the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Nigeria.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the population of Luanda--not only that of Kazenga but of all of Luanda--because I do not know whether Kazenga is part of Luanda or not. It is still or is it an independent republic? [as heard] I want to thank the people of Luanda for their valuable contribution, the contribution our people--this city's population--made during the congress.

They contributed very well by cleaning the streets, by increasing production, and by helping all the guests who were here during the congress, who also expressed to us their sympathy and friendship. The people of Luanda also contributed financially towards the success of the congress. And as you know, our congress was a success--a success for us all.

Now that we have a party, our political life will be increasingly structured (?in all fields). I believe that this performance by the people of Luanda must be praised. I cannot forget the excellent parade the ODP comrades mounted at the [word indistinct] square. It was a good parade. It was by virtue of this contribution by the people of Luanda and by all our people in the country that our congress was a success. Had it not been for this, we might perhaps have failed. So, comrades, thank you very much. The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

COMORO ISLANDS

AFP: PLOT AGAINST PRESIDENT ALI SOILIH FOILED

PA161400Y Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 16 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Moroni, Jan 16 (AFP)--Security forces have foiled a plot against Comoran President Ali Soilih, it was disclosed here. Among those arrested are Dabbas Djoussouf--alleged by police to be the "brains" behind the plot. Other detainees include Ali Mohamed Alvu, 42, a member of the presidential information bureau, whose job, according to police, was to monitor the head of state's comings and goings for the gang. Another detainee is former teacher Mohamed Ali Ahmed, 42, known also as Said Mohamed Sheikh.

Tanzania Reports Arrests

LD142044Y Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1600 GMT 14 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Moroni--Several people have been arrested in Comoro following an attempt this week to assassinate President Ali Soilih. The state radio of the Comoro Islands said among those arrested were a press attache in the president's office and a professor at the local college. The radio said today the unsuccessful plot against the president, who has been in office since January 1976, was revealed by two loyal soldiers. The conspirators had tried to use the soldiers in the assassination bid. This is the second attempt to assassinate Ndugu Soilih. The previous one was foiled in April 1976.

RHODESIA

OPPOSITION'S SANDEMAN, MUZOREWA REVIEW TALKS

PA151428Y Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 15 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Salisbury, Jan 15 (AFP)--Premier Ian Smith was currently negotiating an internal settlement with black nationalist groups "at any cost and based on paper guarantees," right-wing Rhodesian Action Party leader Ian Sandeman said here today.

Mr Sandeman, whose party was totally eclipsed by Mr Smith's ruling Rhodesian Front in last year's general election, said Mr Smith was "getting the worse of the Kissinger settlement terms without any tangible benefits." "What Mr Smith promised in last year's general election is now proving untrue," Mr Sandeman said. "People are saying present developments are not what they voted for," he said.

Mr Sandeman said there had recently been an upsurge in interest in the Rhodesian Action Party (RAP) and this had prompted a new RAP campaign of public and private meetings around the country.

In an interview with the SUNDAY MAIL here, Mr Sandeman also said he believed Rhodesian white morale was "at an all-time low" and topped by excessive emigration figures.

Another comment on the current settlement talks between Mr Smith's government and three black political groups came today from one of the nationalist participant leaders, Bishop Abel Muzorewa.

Bishop Muzorewa told the SUNDAY MAIL that Rhodesia's economic viability should not be destroyed and because food sources and jobs had to be preserved his United African National Council (UANC) and accepted that whites should have 28 parliamentary seats after black rule in Rhodesia.

The level of white parliamentary representation was decided in the talks last week, but difficulties continue over Mr Smith's demand for a supporting blocking mechanism which would prevent amendment of the constitution without white approval. "The avoidance of hunger is the reason we have accepted a reasonable number of whites in the parliament of Zimbabwe. We can't just dismiss whites as irrelevant. They are citizens of our country--they are an economic factor," Bishop Muzorewa said.

Attacking British Foreign Secretary David Owen, Bishop Muzorewa said he was attempting to revive the "cold and dead" Anglo-American settlement plan for Rhodesia and trying to use some African countries to "stop the democratic process taking place in Salisbury."

"These activities are more deplorable because they are being made for the sole purpose of improving Dr Owen's chances in the coming British elections. He wants to sacrifice 200 Zimbabweans a week to win a seat in the British Parliament," the Bishop said.

SECURITY FORCES KILL GUERRILLA IN NORTHERN AREA

LD151930Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Combined Operations Headquarters reports that as a result of intensive follow-up operations, one of the gang involved in the murders in the northern area which occurred on 4 and 7 January has been killed by security forces. Security forces are continuing their hunt for the surviving members of the gang.

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA: NO MEETING WITH WESTERN FIVE THIS MONTH

LD132204Y Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 13 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, has confirmed that his planned meeting with representatives of the five Security Council Western countries on South-West Africa is not to take place this month. Mr Botha said that he had met local representatives of the five countries in Pretoria and has also been in contact with the prime minister, Mr Vorster, on the matter. It's not known if the meeting will take place at a later date.

Mr Botha said South Africa had shown its willingness to take part in the talks by agreeing to two dates, the 17th and the 23d of this month. He did not know why the 23d was not suitable from the Western countries' point of view.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

LD152300Y Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 15 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, says international recognition for an independent South-West Africa is of great importance, but if the price of such recognition was too high it would be better to do without it for the time being.

In a television interview in Pretoria, Mr Botha said international acknowledgement enabled a new independent country to conduct its (?trade) and enter into agreements with other countries and to achieve technical cooperation. If, however, the price of this recognition was conflict and destruction, then the cost was too high. Mr Botha said that if South-West Africa had to do without international recognition, the country would have to succeed on its own, carefully planning its future (?in) hope that recognition would eventually come.

Mr Botha also emphasized that South Africa's policy on South-West Africa was correct. Her policy was that the people of the territory should decide for themselves what sort of constitution and government they wanted. South Africa could not force her will or policy on South-West Africa because the territory did not belong to her. By the same token, other countries should not think that they could force their ideologies on South Africa or a sovereign state.

The foreign minister also pointed out that it was not true to say that nothing had been achieved in the talks between the South African Government and the five Western member countries of the UN Security Council. In the political sphere there were no longer any points of disagreement with the five powers. There were two problems, however. These were, firstly, a date for the election of a constitutional assembly in South-West Africa; and, secondly, the presence and strengths of South African forces in the territory.

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